# 师幼互动影响幼儿发展的机制:多因素的调节作用

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摘 要 根植于生态系统理论,现有研究发现师幼互动(即 3-6 岁幼儿与教师之间的课堂互动)与幼儿发展结果之间的关系受到个体、环境、过程和时间四个层面的因素的调节,并从发展风险、环境连续性及长期累积效应三个角度解释了产生调节效应的内在机制。未来研究需要进一步探索更稳定的调节变量,建立更统合的理论假设,并关注中国情境下的师幼互动影响幼儿发展的调节机制。

关键词 早期教育;师幼互动;幼儿发展结果;调节作用

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## 1 引言

早期教育的课堂质量通常从结构质量(即教室规模、教师资质等相对稳定的框架特征)和过程质量(即教师与幼儿的课堂互动以及给幼儿提供学习机会的情况)这两方面来考察(Arya & Pianta, 2018)。其中,课堂的过程质量主要通过师幼互动(teacher-child interactions,有时也直接用"classroom quality"指代)来衡量,并被证明比结构质量更能预测幼儿的发展(e.g., Mashburn et al., 2008; Hamre, Hatfield, Pianta, & Jamil, 2014)。在互动教学(teaching through interactions)框架中,Hamre等人(2014)从情感支持、课堂组织和教学支持这三个维度对师幼互动质量进行了界定。情感支持反映课堂上教师和幼儿之间温暖安全的关系以及教师对幼儿的敏感性,课堂组织反映教师如何行为管理、组织教学时间和日常活动,教学支持则指教师在课堂上促进幼儿高阶思维的方式。高质量的师幼互动在教学实践中具体表现为教师与幼儿之间建立了支持性的关系,及时回应幼儿的需求,高效地组织符合幼儿最近发展区的活动,尊重幼儿的兴趣和自主性,采用丰富多样的教学手段促进幼儿探索,有意识地培养幼儿的高级认知技能,并给予过程导向的反馈等(Pianta, La Paro, & Hamre, 2008)。

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大量研究发现,高质量师幼互动对幼儿发展有两大方面的积极作用。首先,高质量师幼互动能促进幼儿的认知能力发展,提高幼儿的学业技能(语言、数学、读写技能等)、学习兴趣、投入度及学习品质,从而提升幼儿的综合入学准备(e.g., Hu, Teo, Nie, & Wu, 2017; Hu, Fan, Wu, Locasale-Crouch, & Song, 2018; Trawick-Smith, Swaminathan, & Liu, 2016; Williford, Maier, Downer, Pianta, & Howes, 2013)。第二,高质量师幼互动有助于幼儿形成更好的社会情感功能,包括帮助幼儿发展出更好的抑制控制、执行功能,减少行为问题等(e.g., Pratt, Lipscomb, & McClelland, 2016; Schmitt, Pratt, Korucu, Napoli, & Schmerold, 2018; Weyns, Colpin, Engels, Doumen, & Verschueren, 2019)。这些积极效应对于幼儿将来适应学校、取得长远的学业成功以及发展和保持积极的人际关系至关重要。

但是,目前的研究也发现了很多不一致的结果。例如,一些研究发现师幼互动对提高幼儿的入学准备和认知能力只有很微弱的影响甚至没有影响(e.g., Burchinal et al., 2008; Raver et al., 2011); 师幼互动并不能预测幼儿的社会情感功能(e.g., Garbacz, Zychinski, Feuer, Carter, & Budd, 2014; Keys et al., 2013)。对于这些矛盾的研究结果,一些研究者提出,可能的解释是潜在的调节变量影响了师幼互动与幼儿发展结果之间的关系。例如,师幼互动质量越高,农村幼儿的行为问题越少,但师幼互动不影响城市幼儿的行为问题(Schmitt et al., 2018)。

关于师幼互动影响幼儿发展过程中的调节效应的研究为该领域提供了一个深入其作用机制的视角。为帮助研究者了解该主题的进展和趋势,本文梳理了调节变量影响师幼互动作用效果的研究<sup>1</sup>,介绍此类研究的理论基础,归纳基本假设,总结主要发现,并提出未来可能的研究方向。

# 2 研究的理论基础

根据生态系统理论(ecological systems theory),儿童的发展受到一系列相互嵌套的环境系统的驱动和影响。幼儿与教师所形成的师幼互动作为个体与环境相互作用的近端过程之一,是幼儿发展的重要动力,它会与过程-人-环境-时间(process-person-context-time, PPCT)这四个层面的多种因素产生复杂的交互作用,从而对幼儿产生不同的影响(Bronfenbrenner &

<sup>1</sup> 检索关键词为"kindergarten/preschool/early childhood education + teacher-child interaction(s)/staff-child interaction(s)/classroom interaction(s)/classroom quality/quality of interaction/emotional support/classroom organization/instructional support/instructional quality + moderator/moderation/moderated/moderating",检索时间段为"1990-2020",检索数据库包括"Web of Science, Google Scholar, Science Direct, Springer, Elsevier, CNKI",检索结果经作者筛选共有 35 篇文献符合综述主题。

Morris, 2007) .

首先,个人的倾向、资源和需求特征以不同的模式在幼儿身上结合,这种特征差异可能会导致不同的幼儿从同样的师幼互动经历中受益不同。例如,最初表现出较低抑制控制的幼儿在经历高质量师幼互动后进步更显著(Choi et al., 2016)。其次,幼儿园环境与其他环境的联系可能会对师幼互动发挥的作用造成影响。例如,师幼互动对来自高风险家庭的幼儿产生的影响更显著(Cadima et al., 2016)。最后,构成生态系统的任何要素随时间推移的稳定性、一致性对于整个系统的有效运作至关重要。例如,儿童在发展后期经历的较差的课堂质量会破坏他们从早期师幼互动中的获益(Broekhuizen, Mokrova, Burchinal, & Garrett-Peters, 2016)。

因此,尽管师幼互动会对幼儿发展产生部分独立的影响,但这种影响的效果也同时取决于幼儿的特征以及他们所处的直接或更远端的环境。整体来看,生态系统理论所主张的相互作用理念是挖掘潜在调节效应的基础。

## 3 调节因素研究的基本假设

对于调节变量影响师幼互动与幼儿发展结果之间的关系的作用原理,目前的研究通常从三种不同的视角来进行探讨。

首先,从发展风险出发,补偿假设(compensatory hypothesis)提出,与没有发展风险的幼儿相比,师幼互动可能与那些面临高风险的幼儿(例如家庭环境较差、困难气质、能力基线水平低等)的发展结果正相关更强(e.g., Magnuson et al., 2007; Schmitt et al., 2018),高质量师幼互动对于这些幼儿来说可能是一种至关重要的补偿,有助于缩小发展劣势。相反,优势积累假设(accumulated advantages hypothesis)提出,与不具优势的幼儿相比,那些一开始就具有优势的幼儿(例如家庭学习环境好、高社会经济地位等)由于拥有更好的学习条件和基础,也许能更多地从高质量师幼互动中汲取让他们受益的东西,最终呈现出"锦上添花"的效果(e.g., Anders et al., 2012; Pinto et al., 2013)。

其次,从发展环境的连续性出发,连续性假设(continuities hypothesis)提出,不同环境系统之间存在交互作用,诸如家庭、社区、地理区域等其他环境因素可能促进或阻碍师幼互动的有效性(e.g., Cadima et al., 2016)。而非连续性假设(discontinuities hypothesis)则认为,不同环境系统的作用可能是相对分离的,无论其他环境如何,师幼互动会对幼儿发展

产生独立的、较为一致的影响(e.g., Keys et al., 2012)。

最后,从长期发展的累积效应出发,累乘假设(multiplicative hypothesis)意味着不同阶段的师幼互动质量之间存在交互作用(e.g., Carr et al., 2019),对幼儿发展的后期投资(例如幼儿园期的高质量互动)能提高早期投资(例如入园前的托儿中心的高质量互动)的效率,而早期投资如果没有后续投资跟进,将难以产生持续的效益(Ansari & Pianta, 2018)。累加假设(additive hypothesis)则意味着不同阶段的师幼互动质量对幼儿发展会有相对独立的作用(e.g., Lehrl et al., 2016)。

需要注意的是,这三种视角彼此之间并不是矛盾的,只是对调节效应作用方式的关注点不同,更多是一种研究取向而不是对结果的绝对解释。但是,各视角内含的两个假设是互斥的,并且都得到一定的证据支持,下面将详述这些研究证据。

## 4 师幼互动与幼儿发展结果之间关系的调节因素

#### 4.1 幼儿个体特征的调节作用

个体的特征既是发展的直接结果,同时也是影响近端过程的因素之一。首先,幼儿的性别和种族以不同的方式影响师幼互动与幼儿发展结果之间的关系。在性别方面,多数研究表明男孩比女孩在社会情感功能发展上对师幼互动质量更敏感。师幼互动质量越高,男孩的社会退缩越少,同伴关系越和谐,而女孩则不受影响(Madill, Gest, & Rodkin, 2014)。低质量的师幼互动对男孩尤其不利,当教师的情感支持一致性低时,男孩表现出更多的行为问题,但女孩却依然表现良好(Brock & Curby, 2014)。

目前研究提出有两个原因可能解释师幼互动影响幼儿社会情感功能的性别差异。第一,学龄前男孩比女孩更经常参与活跃且高冲突的游戏,高质量师幼互动给他们提供了更好的支持和监督,有助于确保男孩更具有攻击性的游戏不会进一步发展成行为问题(Votruba-Drzal, Coley, & Chase-Lansdale, 2004)。第二,自我调节能力的发展在早期呈现出男孩普遍弱于女孩的特点,如果师幼互动质量较高,就能提供迅速有效的外部控制形式,以帮助男孩调节他们的情绪和行为,起到补偿作用。对于女孩来说,这些外部控制相对不那么重要,因为她们本身拥有更强的自我调节能力(Brock & Curby, 2014)。

在种族方面,部分研究发现师幼互动对少数族裔幼儿具有更强的积极影响。当师幼互动质量提高时,相比美国白人幼儿,非裔和西班牙裔幼儿的行为问题减少更显著、语言技能提

高更多(Burchinal, Peisner-Feinberg, Bryant, & Clifford, 2000; Magnuson, Ruhm, & Waldfogel, 2007)。但也有一些研究并没有检测到种族的调节作用(Dang et al., 2011; Keys et al., 2012; Keys et al., 2013)。Keys 等人(2013)提醒,可能存在种族与经济状况之间的混淆。调查显示美国的少数族裔幼儿比白人幼儿更容易处于不利的发展环境中,包括生活贫困、父母的养育投入度低、多具有移民背景以及遭受歧视等(Marks & Coll, 2018)。这些消极的伴生因素给幼儿发展造成了压力和挑战,而高质量师幼互动作为一种支持性资源,可能对此起到了有效的补偿作用。例如,一项针对德国幼儿的研究发现,不论种族如何,只有具有移民背景的幼儿的行为问题随课堂组织水平提高而减少,非移民幼儿不会如此(Kohl et al., 2020)。因此种族背后隐含的经济条件、教养方式等其他因素是否有可能比种族本身更具有调节作用,还需要更细致的检验才能阐明。

其次,研究发现能力的基线水平低的幼儿比那些基线水平高的幼儿能更多地从师幼互动中获益。最初在社会或行为技能发展上较落后的幼儿通常在教学适应上更困难,所以他们对高质量师幼互动的需求更强。如果师幼互动质量低,这些幼儿的表现将更难改善,而一旦有更积极和个性化的师幼互动支持,他们的能力发展便会得到补偿,从而取得大幅度的进步。例如,与自我调节能力较强的同龄人相比,那些一开始自我调节能力较弱的幼儿在学年结束时从高质量师幼互动中获益更多,他们的社交能力、学习能力都有更大的增长(Connor et al., 2010)。Pratt(2016)等人发现,那些3岁时遵从性得分更低的幼儿在经历高质量师幼互动一年后的合作能力显著提高,3岁时遵从性更好的幼儿则没有表现出此效应。

此外,幼儿天生的气质和反应性也会起到调节作用。根据对环境的生物敏感性理论和差别易感性假说,自身具有"脆弱性"特质的个体对环境有更大的敏感性(Belsky, 2005; Boyce & Ellis, 2005),因此其发展可能比其他幼儿更容易受到师幼互动质量的影响。困难气质、高压力反应性的幼儿在高质量师幼互动中行为问题显著减少,其同伴疏离水平与互动质量呈负相关,而非困难气质、压力反应性适中的幼儿则没有表现出这样的特点(Phillips et al., 2012; Roubinov et al., 2019)。这可能是因为困难气质的幼儿更需要成人的支持来帮助他们控制消极倾向,当师幼互动适宜时,他们从周围环境中学习的效率就会提升,进而体现为社会情感功能的进步。

#### 4.2 环境的调节作用

多数研究得到了符合连续性假设的结果,即不同的家庭、地区环境会促进或抑制幼儿从

幼儿园教学中获益的程度。首先,家庭是幼儿最直接的成长环境。一方面,家庭环境较差的幼儿常面临缺少资源和认知刺激的困境,他们的父母更少给予悉心的照料、更少鼓励和教导他们学习。由于在家庭中得不到足够的成长支持,这些幼儿的发展可能更加依赖从幼儿园教学中得到的补偿,因此对师幼互动质量反应更敏感。例如,一些研究发现师幼互动质量只与高风险家庭幼儿的自我调节能力和执行功能正相关(Cadima et al., 2016; Duval, Bouchard, Pagé, & Hamel, 2016) ,与父母学历较低的幼儿的数学技能、阅读能力有更强的正相关(Peisner-Feinberg & Burchinal, 1997; Peisner-Feinberg et al., 2001) 。另一方面,也有研究得出相反的结论,例如,师幼互动质量与高社会经济地位幼儿的学业技能正相关更强(Anders et al., 2012; Pinto, Pessanha, & Aguiar, 2013),与母亲受教育程度高的幼儿的认知发展正相关更强(Dang et al., 2011)。这可能是因为家庭环境好的幼儿往往拥有更多的经济和教育资本,他们的父母能够提供丰富的认知刺激,更积极负责地投入到养育实践中,使这些幼儿积累了学习优势,进而在师幼互动中获益更多。此外,也有部分研究得到了符合非连续性假设的结果,并没有发现家庭因素的调节作用(Burchinal et al., 2000; Keys et al., 2012; Li et al., 2016)。总之,目前关于家庭因素的调节作用的研究结果是不一致的,仍需要更多的探究才能得出结论。

其次,幼儿所在的地理区域环境通过渗透微观系统来影响幼儿获得的经验。城市与农村在资源可得性、经济特征和社区结构等方面均存在显著差异,这使得师幼互动与地域之间存在交互作用。Schmitt(2018)等人发现,高质量师幼互动有助于减少农村幼儿的行为问题,但不影响城市幼儿的行为问题。Li等人(2019)也发现,师幼互动与中国农村(而非城市)幼儿的语言、早期数学发展正相关。这可能是因为农村幼儿的父母更容易采用较消极的养育方式,教育资源更匮乏,更多是幼儿园教育对幼儿的行为和认知技能培养起到引导作用。而城市幼儿往往能得到充足的资源和支持,他们对师幼互动质量的反应可能没有农村幼儿那么敏感。这些研究提示,高质量师幼互动也许是一种有助于缩小农村和城市幼儿发展差距的有效补偿。

#### 4.3 课堂过程中其他因素的调节作用

以往的研究通常采用整体观察课堂情况的方法来评价某个班级的师幼互动质量,往往忽略了课堂过程中幼儿的个人体验。Jeon等人(2010)的研究发现,只有大约三分之一的幼儿在高质量课堂上有真正高质量的个人体验,个人体验正向调节了师幼互动与幼儿社会情感

功能的关系。因此,尽管良好的师幼互动质量能起到整体性的支持作用,但它不能确保所有幼儿都得到足够的关照并投入课堂中,每个幼儿的差异性个人体验影响了他们的受益程度。

另一个隐含在课堂过程中的调节因素是师幼关系。师幼关系指教师和特定幼儿之间累积的、持续的独特人际关系(Pianta & Ryan, 2002)。师幼互动(群体层面)和师幼关系(个体层面)既分别对幼儿产生影响,又存在一定的交互作用。例如,有研究发现,具有冲突型师幼关系(teacher-child conflict,即师幼间具有对立、不和谐的关系)的幼儿在课堂之外得到的关照更少,他们的积极行为养成更多受到课堂中高质量师幼互动的补偿,但具有亲密型师幼关系(teacher-child closeness,即师幼间具有温暖、开放的关系)的幼儿不论课堂中的师幼互动质量如何,他们的行为问题都较少,因为他们已经从课堂外得到了足够的引导和支持(Lippard, La Paro, Rouse, & Crosby, 2018)。因此,幼儿与教师之间潜在的更积极或更消极的关系可能会对师幼互动的作用造成影响。

#### 4.4 历时因素的调节作用

生态系统理论中的历时系统(chronosystem)将时间因素作为研究个体发展的参照系,强调发展中环境、事件、要素随时间所发生的变化(Bronfenbrenner & Morris, 2007),这种动态过程在师幼互动对幼儿发展结果的影响中也有所体现。首先,随着幼儿的发展,一些原先存在的效应可能会发生变化。Peisner-Feinberg(2001)的研究从幼儿园第一年开始追踪儿童到二年级,发现师幼互动与儿童认知能力之间的正相关会逐年下降。在另一项纵向研究中,虽然在儿童早期,家庭学习环境不具有调节作用,但到了儿童中期,却发现只有在高质量家庭学习环境下,师幼互动质量与儿童的数学成绩才呈现正相关关系(Lehrl, Kluczniok, & Rossbach, 2016)。

其次,促进幼儿发展的近端过程也会随时间推移产生复杂的累积效应。虽然有少数研究的结果支持累加假设,并未发现在幼儿发展的长期结果上存在后期与早期师幼互动质量的交互作用(Lehrl et al., 2016),但更多的研究结果支持累乘假设。例如,入园前(pre-kindergarten)托儿中心的师幼互动质量与幼儿入园一年后的数学技能的关系受到幼儿园阶段课堂质量的正向调节(Carr, Mokrova, Vernon-Feagans, & Burchinal, 2019)。对低收入农村幼儿的研究发现,只有当幼儿在入园前的托儿中心和幼儿园中都经历了高质量的师幼互动时,他们在幼儿园的最后一年才能表现出更好的社交技能和更少的问题行为,仅仅是经历某一个阶段的高质

量互动并不能产生这种效应(Broekhuizen et al., 2016)。这些结果提示,高质量学前教育项目如果没有后续一致的教学质量支持,其积极影响便容易衰减,可能不会有较强的预测力。

### 5 总结与展望

通过文献回顾可以发现,师幼互动影响幼儿发展的过程中的调节效应作为该领域的一个重要主题,仍有很多方面亟待未来深入挖掘。第一,在调节变量的选取上,未来的研究可以在 PPCT 模型的基础上进一步丰富拓展。诸如幼儿的目标结构、学习动机等个人层因素,家庭教养方式、幼儿园的结构质量、同伴关系等其他环境层因素均可以作为潜在的调节变量进行考虑。更外围的社会文化和教育价值观也可能具有调节作用。例如,在不确定性规避程度、权力距离不同的文化下,期望教育者提供精确目标、保持权威的程度也不同(Hofstede, 1986)。受这种期望的影响,当教师采用以较高的开放性、自主性为特点的师幼互动时,对幼儿的影响也可能不同。对于目前已知的一些调节变量如家庭社会经济地位以及种族等,其调节的方向和效果尚存在不一致的结果,未来的研究者可以考虑使用元分析的方法来寻找更稳定的调节变量。同时,应考虑建立多层次、更系统的研究模型来检验 PPCT 的各因素层之间是否有更复杂的多重交互作用,这可能会发现不同层面的因素组合下幼儿对师幼互动具有不同反应模式的有趣结果,给该领域的研究带来更多有价值的结论。

第二,在作用机制上,对于调节变量如何与师幼互动产生交互作用,需要更加统合的基本假设和更充分的验证。现有的几种假设的解释力较为有限,例如,尚无法较好地解释一些调节效应随时间发生的变化。后续研究如果能采用更为全局性的假设,将更具有启发性,例如,在揭示家庭、地区等环境的调节作用时,从连续性的角度来探究不同环境之间的联系,并依据发展风险来解释调节作用的方向,而采用纵向研究设计,则可以在时间维度上探究不同阶段环境影响的累积效应。此外,对于师幼互动的影响结果不一致这一问题,除调节效应外,还存在另一种可能的原因——阈值效应,即师幼互动质量只有高过某一阈值水平时才能发挥效用(Burchinal, Vandergrift, Pianta, & Mashburn, 2010)。未来的研究或许可以将阈值效应与调节效应结合起来考察,有助于发现最关键的作用机制。

第三,目前师幼互动的研究大部分是在西方情境下进行的,未来的研究应更加关注中国情境下师幼互动影响幼儿发展过程中的调节机制。教育部颁布的《幼儿园教育指导纲要(试行)》(简称新纲要)对幼儿园的教学模式提出了应以游戏为基本活动,促进幼儿的个性化

发展并培养自主性,拓展幼儿的经验和视野等具体要求(中华人民共和国教育部,2001),这些要求所蕴含的教学特点都与高质量师幼互动的特点相符合。然而,有研究发现,中国幼儿园教学的实际过程质量与《新纲要》的期望依然存在一定差距。首先,调查显示大班级规模、低师幼比的全组教学仍然是中国幼儿园中十分普遍的教学方式(e.g., Hu, Fan, Wu, & Yang, 2017)。其次,受到集体主义文化和儒家价值观的影响,中国幼儿教师在教学过程中偏向于以教师为中心,强调纪律和服从,更关注幼儿的群体需求而不是个人需求(e.g., Hu, Fan, Li, & Ieong, 2015; Hu, Fan, Gu, & Yang, 2016)。再者,幼儿教师常缺乏运用脚手架、提供反馈循环和进行拓展延伸等方面的技能(e.g., Hu et al., 2018)。这种现状使得中国情境下的师幼互动研究有其独特的切入点和价值。尽管已经有一些先驱性的研究对中国师幼互动的模式、影响因素、对幼儿的作用等进行了探索(e.g., Hu et al., 2017; Hu et al., 2018; Li et al., 2016),但中国的师幼互动研究整体上起步较晚,尚有许多值得挖掘的方面,需要更多的研究来深入分析如调节效应这样的复杂作用机制。事实上,探索影响师幼互动产生积极效应的调节因素,不仅有助于明确中国幼儿园教学模式下师幼互动作用的规律和特点,也有助于据此开发有针对性的师幼互动干预方案,为幼儿教师实施具有发展适宜性的师幼互动提供建议,以促进教育资源效用的充分发挥。

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# The moderating effects among the influences of teacher-child interactions on children development

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Abstract A large number of studies have extensively investigated the role of high-quality teacher-child interactions on young children's early cognitive and social emotional development, but have drawn a variety of inconsistent and contradictory conclusions. Some researchers suggested that the possible explanation was that the potential moderators affect the relationships between teacher-child interactions and children's developmental outcomes. Through reviewing the previous literature on the moderating effects among the influences of teacher-child interactions on children's developmental outcomes, the current review summarized the main findings of these kind of researches, analyzed their theoretical bases, and put forward future research directions.

According to the ecological systems theory, as one of the proximal processes that affect children's development, the mode of teacher-child interactions' influences will be affected by four factors: process, person, context and time (PPCT). Meanwhile, the internal mechanisms of moderating effects were explored from three perspectives: developmental risk (compensatory hypothesis vs. accumulated advantages hypothesis: whether teacher-child interactions are more favorable for high-risk children or non-risk children), environment continuities (continuities hypothesis vs. discontinuities hypothesis: whether family and other environmental systems affect the effects of teacher-child interactions) and long-term cumulative effect (additive effect vs. multiplicative effect: whether the influences of teacher-child interactions in each stage are independent or interactive).

First, at the level of children's personal characteristics, the social emotional function of boys (rather than girls) has a positive correlation with teacher-child interactions, and the cognitive development of minority children (compared with majority ethnic children) is more vulnerable to the influence of teacher-child interactions. Children with low baseline abilities (e.g., self-regulation, executive function, compliance) benefit more from teacher-child interactions than

those with high baseline abilities. In addition, teacher-child interactions do not promote the development of all children in the same way, but partly depend on children's environmental sensitivity (e.g., temperament and stress responsiveness).

Second, at the context level, family learning environment and socio-economic status have significant moderating effects. Rural children are more sensitive to the quality of teacher-child interactions than urban children. Therefore, high-quality teacher-child interactions may be a protective factor for high-risk children, or an effective measure to decrease the development gap between rural and urban children.

Third, at the process level, not every child has a truly high-quality personal experience in a high-quality classroom. Children's different personal experience moderates the degree to which they benefit from teacher-child interactions. The potential teacher-child closeness or teacher-child conflict at the individual level affects the influences of teacher-child interactions as well.

Fourth, at the chronological level, longitudinal studies have found that some of the pre-existing effects may change with the development of children. Besides, the high-quality teacher-child interactions need the follow-up classroom supports with high quality, otherwise their positive effects are easy to decay. Only experiencing a certain stage of high-quality teacher-child interactions may not have a strong predictive effect on children's outcomes.

Future researches need to explore more diverse and stable moderators, establish more integrated theoretical assumptions, and focus on the moderating mechanisms between teacher-child interactions and children development in the Chinese context, which will help to clarify the boundary conditions for high-quality teacher-child interactions' positive effects and provide suggestions for educational practice.

**Key words:** early childhood education; teacher-child interactions; child outcomes; moderating effects